GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1788
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2007
FOREIGN AIRLINES FROM KOZHIKODE AND COCHIN AIRPORTS
Sujatha Smt. C.S.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any applications from foreign airlines to commence flight services from Kozhikode and Cochin Airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether clearances have been given for the operation by foreign airlines;

(d) if so, the time by which the services will commence from these airports; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) & ((b): Requests are received from time to time from foreign countries for traffic rights for operations to Kozhikode and Cochin airports. Such requests have mostly been received from countries in the Gulf and Middle East.

(c): Yes, Sir. At present, 12 international airlines are operating to/from Cochin and one international airline is operating to/from Kozhikode. Besides National Aviation Company of India Limited (NACIL) (erstwhile Air India, Indian Airlines) and Air India Express are operating large number of international flights from Cochin and Kozhikode airports to Gulf and Middle East.

(d) & (e): While airlines from Gulf, Middle East and South East Asia are already operating to Cochin, Government have decided to exchange traffic rights with countries in Gulf and Middle East to facilitate operation of the airlines of these countries to Kozhikode w.e.f. 2008.